

REMARKS

Currently, claims 39-75, including independent claims 39 and 57, are pending in the present application. Claims 57-75 were allowed in the recent Office Action. In addition, dependent claim 42 was said to be allowable if rewritten into independent form. In this regard, independent claim 39 has been amended herewith to include the limitations of dependent claim 42. For at least these reasons, Applicants submit that the present claims patentably define over the cited references.

Further, the Office Action also provisionally rejected claims 39-75 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting in view of certain claims of co-pending, co-owned U.S. Application Serial Nos. 10/686,939; 10/687,425; 10/687,269; and 10/137,052. Without commenting on their propriety, Applicants are submitting herewith terminal disclaimers to obviate these rejections.

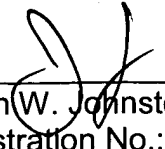
It is believed that the present application is in complete condition for allowance and favorable action is thus respectfully requested. Examiner Sperty is invited and encouraged to telephone the undersigned, however, should any issues remain after consideration of this amendment.

Please charge any additional fees required by this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 04-1403.

Appl. No. 10/686,687
Amdt. Dated March 28, 2006
Reply to Office Action dated Jan. 30, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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